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URBAN DISTRICT OF CHADDERTON

The
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Senior Public Health Inspector
For the Year
1956

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Health Department,
422, Middleton Road,
Chadderton,
August, 1957.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report for the district for 1956.

The many aspects of public health are dealt with in some detail within the report so that I shall here confine myself to a brief reference to one or two points of special interest. Slum clearance proceeded satisfactorily during the year and in this respect as well as in the provision of special housing accommodation for the aged and disabled, the existing excellent co-operation and liaison with the Housing department was maintained.

The greatest public health problem facing us at the moment is that of atmospheric pollution. It is proposed that the setting up of smoke control areas be now investigated and at the same time honest efforts be made to reduce pollution emanating from factory chimneys.

Food hygiene and the prevention of food poisoning continues to engage much attention from the staff of the department towards maintaining and developing the high standard of cleanliness in food premises that has been achieved over past years in conjunction with the Clean Food Association.

Finally, I thank you Mr. Chairman and the members of your Committee for your unfailing and encouraging interest and support throughout the year. I acknowledge my debt to Mr. Stott, Clerk of the Council, for his ever-willing help and guidance and to the officers of other departments for their co-operation. I am specially indebted to Mr. Mann, the Senior Public Health Inspector, and members of the Health Department staff for their excellent work and assistance during the year. To Mr. Prenton, the Chief Clerk, goes the major credit for compiling this report towards which Dr. Falconer also gave valuable assistance.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. P. O'GRADY,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

1956-57

Chairman:

Councillor Ernest Thompson

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor Walter Hill

Councillor Robert Bottoms

Councillor Roland Hill, J.P.

Councillor George Howard

Councillor Sidney G. W. Jacobs

Councillor T. Kenneth Ogden

Councillor Harold Shanley

Councillor Arthur Tongue, J.P.

Clerk of the Council:

L. Stott, Esq.

STAFF

1956-57

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	T. P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.
<i>Senior Public Health Inspector</i>	JAMES MANN, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert. of Meat and Other Foods.
<i>Additional Public Health Inspectors</i>	A. A. WILD, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H., A.R.S.H., Cert. of Meat and Other Foods. A. RENSHAW, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert. of Meat and Other Foods. E. BROOKS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Cert. of Meat and Other Foods.
<i>Pupil Public Health Inspector</i>	H. MOUSDELL (until 2.12.56).
<i>Chief Clerk</i>	H. PRENTON.
<i>General Clerk/Shorthand Typist</i> ...	MISS B. GARSIDE.
<i>Junior Assistant</i>	D. ROBINSON (until 21.10.56). P. W. STANLEY (from 26.11.56).

SECTION A

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT

Chadderton is situated on the south-western slopes of the Lancashire Pennine Hills immediately to the north of Manchester, its southern boundary being continuous with a portion of that city's northern boundary. It is bounded by Oldham on the east, Royton on the north, Middleton on the west and Failsworth on the south-west.

The district covers an area of 3,013 acres and the height above sea level varies from 300 to 500 feet.

Its sub-soil is chiefly rock or shale, overlying clay and the coal measures, but in some parts of the district there is a fair amount of sand.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The chief industries are cotton spinning, electrical and light engineering, aircraft production, garment manufacturing and there is a large printing and dyeworks in the district.

Although mainly industrial, Chadderton possesses some open country and farm land. The arrangement of houses on the new estates contrast very pleasantly with the congested and badly sited older houses.

Atmospheric Pollution, home produced and wind-borne from surrounding industrial areas, presents an important health problem—psychological as well as physical.

The rainfall during 1956 (49.6") was considerably above that of the previous year (36.34"), the number of days on which rain was recorded totalling 189. The ill effects which might have been expected to follow on the unsatisfactory summer were perhaps countered by an exceptionally mild winter and the year as a whole was singularly free from epidemics and infectious disease.

The Manager of the Employment Exchange states that the number of persons wholly unemployed has risen over the past twelve months.

Short time working in the cotton industry which continued during the year with fluctuations has now fallen to very small proportions.

The employment position in other industries is good.

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

Chadderton residents are fortunate in having four parks covering over 35 acres. Well sited for the convenience of people in all sections of the district these parks in addition to well planned and attractive flower beds, shrubberies and tree arrangement, provide exercise and relaxation for old and young on Bowling Greens, Putting Greens, Football and Cricket Pitches. The children's section in Chadderton Hall Park with special facilities for training in "Road Sense" is a feature worthy of special commendation.

Quite apart from the main parks there are several other playgrounds, Gardens of Rest and Bowling Greens. The use made of the roadside seats, provided at various points in the district, by old people is in itself an appreciation of this service.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	3013 acres
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-year 1956)	31,920
Population (Census 1951)	31,114
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1956 (according to rate book)	11,383
Rateable Value	£400,662
Sum represented by a 1d. rate (estimated)	£1,585
Number of inches of rain during 1956	49.65
Number of days on which rain was recorded	189
Number of hours sunshine during 1956	1055.75
Number of days on which sunshine was recorded ...	246

POPULATION

The Registrar General has given the estimated population of Chadderton for mid-year 1956 as 31,920, an increase of 190 over 1955 figures.

BIRTHS

During the year there was an increase in the number of births from 418 in 1955 to 458 in 1956, giving an adjusted rate of 15.1 per 1,000 of the population compared with 15.7 per 1,000 population for England and Wales. Fifty years ago the number of births for the year was 744 and the birth rate 28 per 1,000 of the population.

Table I

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS

1956

RATES	England and Wales (Estimated Population) 44,667,000	Chadderton (Estimated Population) 31,920
BIRTH RATES.	1956	1956 Average Five years 1952-1956
Live Births	15.7	15.1 13.4
Still Births (per 1,000 total births)	23 (a)	23 (a) 25 (a)
DEATH RATES.		
All Causes	11.7	15.1 11.2
Tuberculosis	0.12	0.13 0.13
Cancer (all forms)	2.08	2.54 1.95
Maternal Mortality	0.56	2.13 0.02
Infant Mortality	23.8 (b)	22 (a) 22.5 (a)
Neo-Natal Mortality	16.9 (b)	15 (a) 16 (a)

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

MARRIAGES

There is no Register Office in Chadderton and to the figure of the marriages contracted in the churches and chapels of Chadderton it is necessary to add the number of Chadderton people who were married in the District Register Office at Oldham. On this basis the total numbers during 1956 was 189, as compared with 196 in 1955.

DEATHS

Principal Causes of Death

Diseases of the Circulatory System	149
Cancer	81
Vascular Disease of the Nervous System	48
Diseases of the Respiratory System	70
Accidents	11
All other causes	59
	<hr/>
	418
	<hr/>

Death rate 15.6 per 1,000.

Table II
VITAL STATISTICS

Population — 31,920

(Registrar General's Estimate, mid-1956)

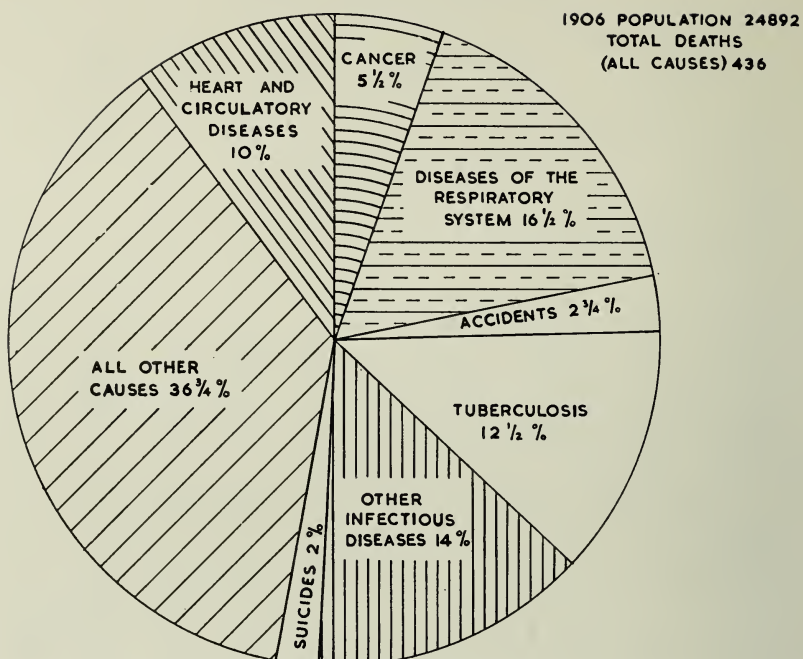
	M.	F.	Total
Live Births { Legitimate	218	222	440
Illegitimate	8	10	18
Total	226	232	458
Crude Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1956			14.3
Adjusted Rate			15.1
Stillbirths	5	6	11
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			23
Deaths	216	202	418
Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1956			13.1
Adjusted Rate			15.6
Maternal Mortality :—			
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion			1
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			2.13
Infantile Mortality :—			
Deaths of infants under one year of age			10
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births			22
Neo-Natal Mortality :—			
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age ...			7
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births			15

Table III

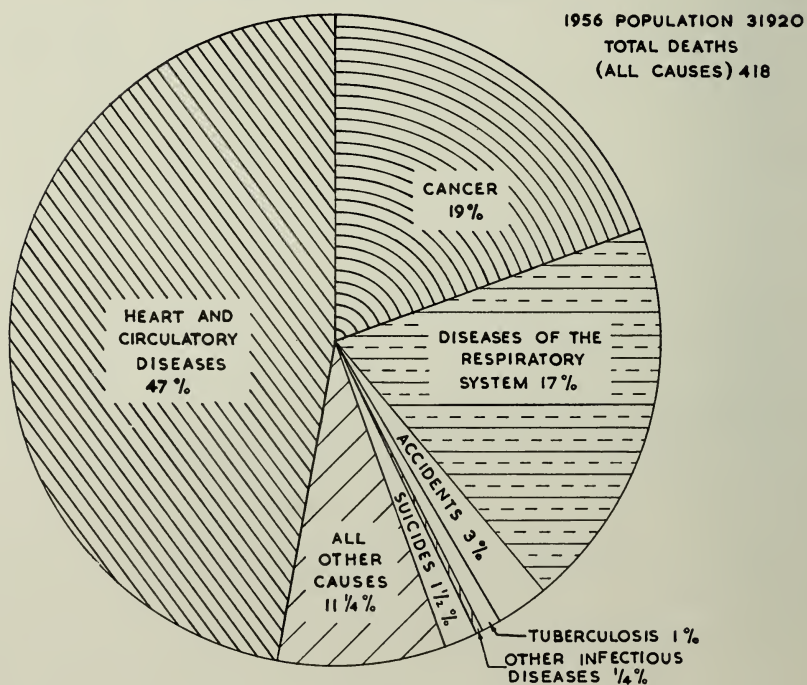
DEATHS (NET)—1956

Causes of Death	Total		1956	
	Males	Females		
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ..	3	1	4	
Tuberculosis other forms	—	—	—	
Syphilitic disease	2	—	2	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough	—	1	1	
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	
Measles	—	—	—	
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	1	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	7	14	81
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	7	7	
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	2	11	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	4	4	
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	22	23	45	
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—	
Diabetes	—	—	—	
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	17	31	48	
Coronary Disease, angina	37	17	54	149
Hypertension with heart disease	6	3	9	
Other heart disease	26	36	62	
Other circulatory disease	15	9	24	
Influenza	—	1	1	70
Pneumonia	8	13	21	
Bronchitis	30	16	46	
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	—	2	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	6	2	8	
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	2	—	2	
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2	3	
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	
Congenital malformations	1	—	1	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	18	29	
Motor vehicle accidents	3	2	5	
All other accidents	2	4	6	
Suicide	5	2	7	
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	
All causes	216	202	418	

DEATHS - CAUSES 1906



DEATHS - CAUSES 1956



In the foregoing table the deaths in Chadderton for the year 1956 were 418, giving an adjusted mortality rate of 15.6 per 1,000 of the population. In 1955 there were 352 deaths with a corresponding rate of 12.2 per 1,000. Fifty years ago the number of deaths was 436 with a mortality rate of 18.1 per 1,000 of the population.

The increasing importance of some causes of death can be best appreciated by studying the charts on the opposite page. To appreciate the reasons for the changes that have and are occurring it is necessary, first of all, to make allowance for the change in the age composition of the population over the past 50 years. Whereas in 1901 persons aged 65 and over amounted to 5% of the total population, in 1955 this proportion was over 11%.

The cause of death giving rise to most concern at present is Cancer. In 1955 over 91,000 people died from this disease, and of these 17,000 were from Cancer of the Lungs and Respiratory Organs.

The death rate for Lung Cancer has doubled over the past 10 years and now accounts for 1 in 18 of all male deaths. Investigations in several countries over recent years all tend to co-relate the increase in Lung Cancer with tobacco and particularly cigarette smoking. No doubt other factors such as Atmospheric Pollution also play a part in mortality from Lung Cancer, but it does appear beyond reasonable doubt that cigarette smoking is the most important factor yet known.

Accidents, including 5 road accidents, accounted for 11 deaths.

In the Ministry of Health report for 1955 it was stated that during that year 6,651 persons died as a result of accidents in the home, four fifths of the deaths occurring in children under 5 years of age and in elderly people of 65 years and over. Over four fifths of the fatal accidents are caused by falls, burns, scalds and gas poisoning.

Regarding the young children much is being done to educate them in road and home safety sense through the schools and the Health Authorities by means of publicity, exhibitions and practical demonstrations.

As regards the old people the provision of specially planned housing will obviate many of the risks.

In many areas a scheme is in operation where officials of the Gas Board carry out regular checks of gas installations in premises occupied by old people, particularly those living alone.

Finally it is clear from a study of the charts on the opposite page that while the battle against disease is being won decisively on a wide front there are unfortunately some areas where a few diseases have made and are making forcible counter attacks.

AGES AT DEATH

Under 1 year of age	10
1 to 5 years	7
5 to 15 years	—
15 to 25 years	2
25 to 45 years	16
45 to 65 years	124
65 to 75 years	110
75 to 85 years	130
85 to 95 years	18
95 years and over	1
	418

MATERNAL MORTALITY

One maternal death occurred giving a mortality rate of 2.13 per 1,000 total births. The patient had every supervision and care in Hospital both before and after confinement and it is difficult to see how in the particular circumstances this tragedy could have been prevented. The whole field of Ante-Natal care has been the subject of a memorandum issued during the year to all Regional Hospital Boards, Local Health Authorities and Local Executive Committees. Subsequently, conferences were held locally, between officers of the different Authorities to formulate plans for co-ordinating and improving ante-natal services.

INFANT MORTALITY AND STILL BIRTHS

There were 10 Infant Deaths, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 22 per 1,000 Live Births compared with the figure of 23.8 for England and Wales. Four of these deaths occurred in the first day and a total of 7 deaths occurred in the first month of life. Still Births totalling 11, gave a rate of 23 per 1,000.

In contrast to the great reduction in infant mortality generally that has been achieved in recent years, there has been relatively little improvement in respect of Infant deaths occurring in the first week of life. These together with still births are classed together under the title "Peri-Natal Mortality." The fall in the death rate in this "Peri-Natal period" has been less than for any other period in infancy and childhood, due mainly to such conditions as Prematurity and Congenital Malformations about which much basic information is still lacking. Much study and research is now being devoted to investigating the causes of such deaths with a view to applying preventative measures.

	STILLBIRTH RATE (per 1,000 total births)	NEO-NATAL RATE (per 1,000 total births)	INFANT MORTALITY RATE
1952	27	13	24
1953	18	12	19
1954	32	21	33
1955	23	19	19
1956	23	15	22

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

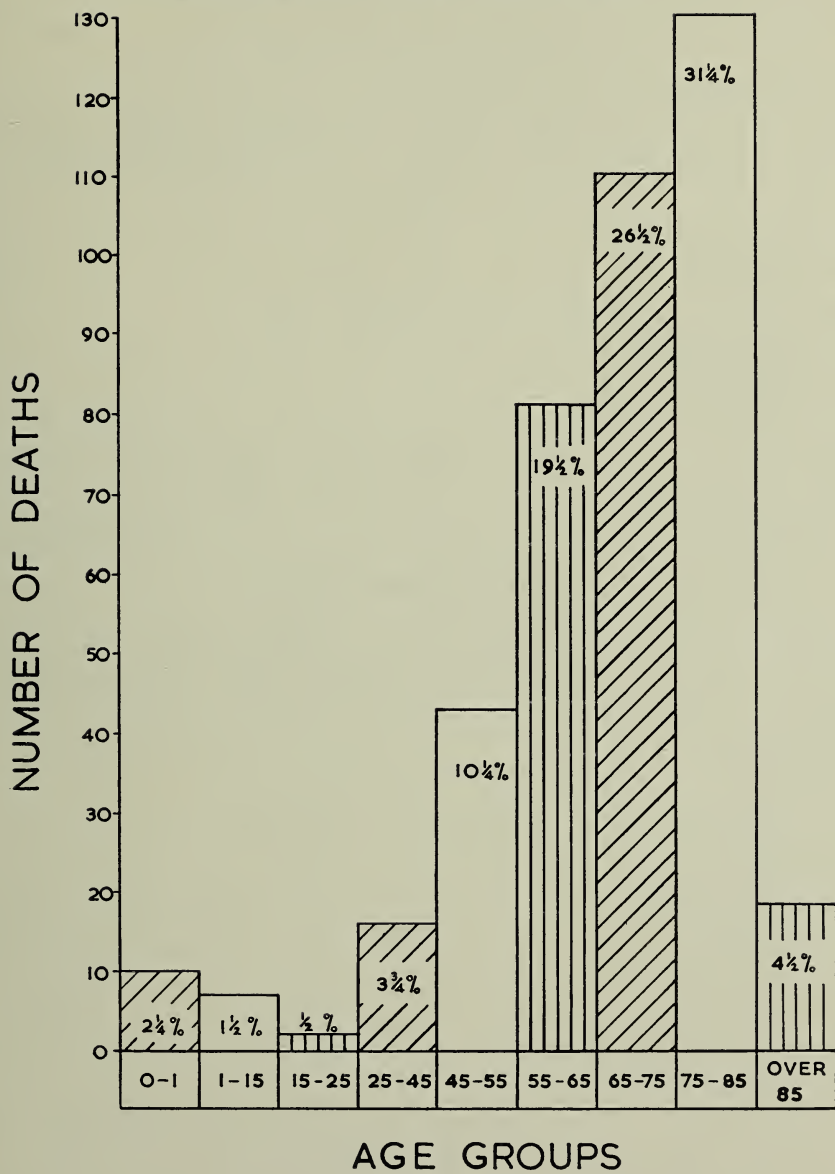


Table IV
INFANT MORTALITY—1956
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Cause of Death	Under 1 Day	1 to 6 Days	1 to 2 Weeks	2 to 3 Weeks	3 to 4 Weeks	Total Under 1 Month
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	—	1
Circulatory Disease	—	—	—	2	—	2
Congenital Malformations...	1	—	—	—	1	2
Haemorrhagic Disease of New-born	2	—	—	—	—	2
	4	—	—	2	1	7

INFANT MORTALITY

Cause of Death	Under 1 Month	1 to 3 Months	4 to 6 Months	7 to 9 Months	10 to 12 Months	Total
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	2
Broncho Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage...	—	—	—	—	1	1
Circulatory Diseases	2	—	—	—	—	2
Congenital Malformations...	2	—	—	—	—	2
Haemorrhagic Disease of New-born	2	—	—	—	—	2
	7	1	—	—	2	10

SECTION B

Table V

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

COMPARATIVE TABLE 1952-1956

England and Wales (estimated population) 44,667,000			Chadderton (estimated population) 31,920			
	1956 No. of Cases	Case Rate per 1,000 popula- tion	1956 No. of Cases	Case Rate per 1,000 popula- tion	Average over five years 1952-1956.	
					No. of Cases	Case Rate per 1,000 popula- tion
Typhoid Fever ...	132	0.00	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	434	0.01	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1163	0.03	1	0.00	6	0.02
Scarlet Fever ...	33096	0.74	23	0.72	234	1.48
Whooping Cough...	92396	2.07	30	0.93	255	1.61
Diphtheria	63	0.00	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4377	0.10	1	0.00	9	0.05
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	1	0.00
Measles	160459	3.59	11	0.34	1319	8.3
Pneumonia	25432	0.57	13	0.4	91	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis	1708	0.04	3	0.09	5	0.03
Acute Encephalitis	174	0.00	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	48982	1.10	4	0.12	432	2.73
Food Poisoning ...	11008	0.25	4	0.12	16	0.10
Puerperal Pyrexia	11672	0.26	3	0.09	7	0.04
Tuberculosis Respiratory ...	31642	0.71	13	0.4	88	0.55
Other Forms ...	4173	0.09	—	—	12	0.07

Table VI
INFECTIOUS DISEASES—1956

Notifiable Diseases	TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES IN AGE GROUPS									
	Total Cases at all ages	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65 and over
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	23	—	2	11	8	2	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	11	—	2	7	2	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	30	4	2	11	13	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	4	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	4	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis— Pulmonary	13	—	—	2	1	—	3	5	1	1
Non-Pulmonary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	107	10	8	32	25	3	10	8	7	4

MEASLES

During 1956 only eleven cases of measles were notified as against 413 cases in 1955. In the whole of the country the number of cases dropped from 693,741 cases to 160,459. There is no way at present of immunising a child against Measles so attempts must be made to check the spread of infection by the prompt isolation of infected persons.

**Measles
11 cases**

WHOOPIING COUGH

There was a slight increase in the number of cases in the country and in Chadderton 30 cases were notified during the year as against 10 in 1955. All the cases were 5 years or under. It is hoped that by the use of efficient vaccine this most serious disease will gradually be overcome. There was one death from this disease.

Whooping Cough
30 cases

SCARLET FEVER

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever was 23 this year compared with 35 cases during 1955. The disease was again of a mild form.

Scarlet Fever
23 cases

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Three cases of puerperal pyrexia were reported during the year. This condition is often caused by the same organism that causes Scarlet Fever and Erysipelas. Recovery was complete in each case.

**Puerperal
Pyrexia**
3 cases

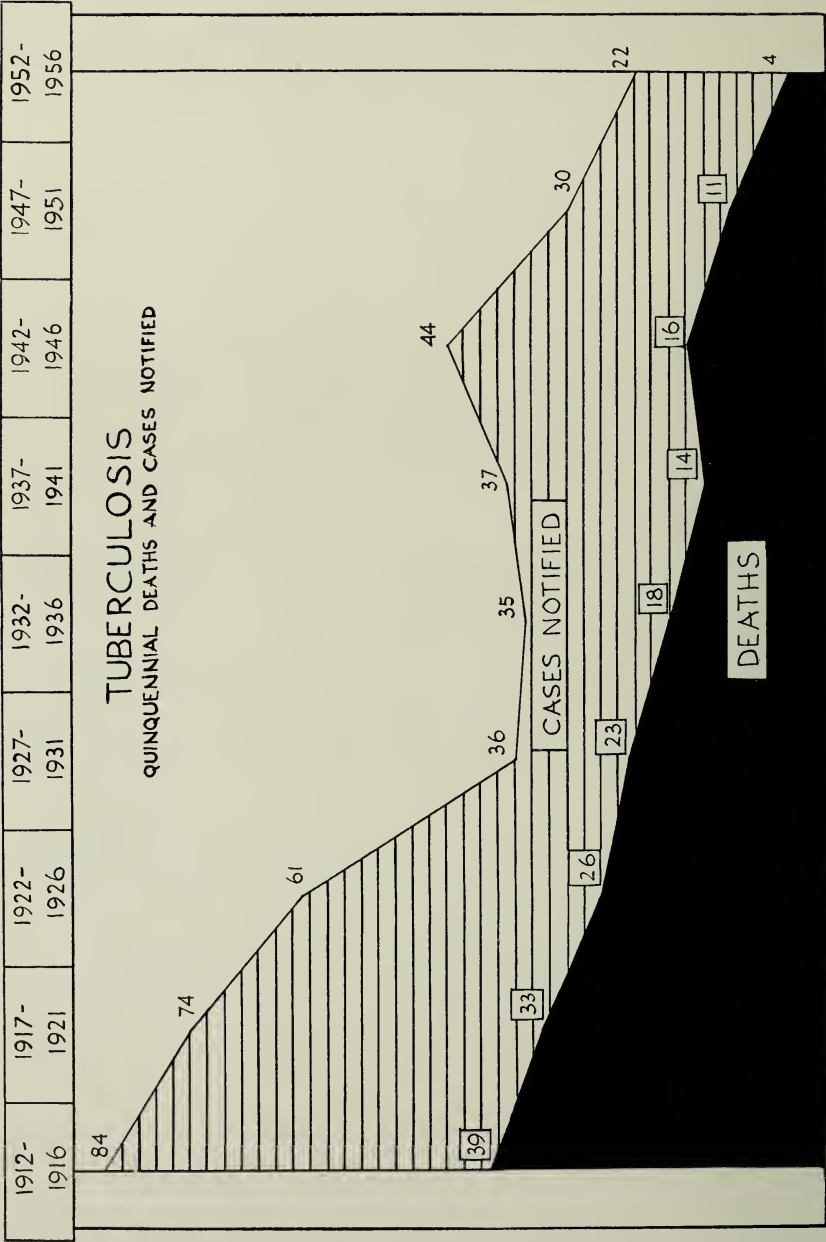
TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 1956 there were 13 new notifications of Tuberculosis and 4 deaths giving an incidence rate of 0.4 and a mortality rate of 0.13 per 1,000 of the population. Whereas the death rate shows no variation from the average of the five preceding years the incidence (notification) rate shows a very appreciable and welcome decrease. In fact the new notifications in Chadderton over the past 5 years average out at about two-thirds of the incidence rate over the whole country.

**Pulmonary
Tuberculosis**
13 cases

The history of Tuberculosis over the past 50 years can most likely be grasped by considering the graph on page 20 showing the trends in deaths and notifications over that period. Whereas the increased mortality over the war years can fairly be attributed to the added hardships and diet restrictions during that period the corresponding increase in the number of notifications was in a large measure due to introduction of Mass Miniature Radiography in 1943. In the early years over 18% of all new notifications of Tuberculosis were brought to light by the Mass Radiography Units.

The slight decline over the past few years in deaths and notifications is unprecedented and the time is now opportune to redouble our efforts so as to eliminate completely this disease. However favourable the present position may appear in relation to what obtained in the past it is well to know that the Ministry of Health Report for 1955 states that Tuberculosis caused 67% of all deaths from Infectious Disease during that year. Furthermore, 78% of these deaths occurred in persons of the Age Groups 15-39 years.



Regarding non-pulmonary Tuberculosis the pasteurisation of milk has brought about a dramatic reduction in the number of cases.

Finally there is now for the first time solid grounds for hoping that the present methods of treatment and prevention will soon bring this decrease effectively under control.

FOOD POISONING

A total of 4 cases was reported during the year, none of which originated within this district. Over recent years in England and Wales the number of Food Poisoning outbreaks have annually increased. The work initiated years ago by the Chadderton Clean Food Association is now continued under the Food Hygiene Regulations. A high standard is demanded from food premises in the district not only in the provision of the necessary facilities and equipment but also, and what is equally important, in the intelligent use of such facilities.

Food Poisoning
4 cases

DYSENTERY

There were four cases of Dysentery this year. Last year there were 290 cases. The disease is nearly always mild in character and the number notified is probably not a correct figure, as many people with slight symptoms do not seek medical treatment and carry on with their day to day activities. It is vital that everyone should remember that the disease spreads rapidly and this demands the highest standards of personal hygiene to help to control it.

Dysentery
4 cases

POLIOMYELITIS

Four cases occurred during the year, happily without fatality, but with some paralysis in 3 cases. No apparent connection could be traced between the cases. Notifications of Poliomyelitis throughout the country have increased considerably if irregularly over recent years.

Poliomyelitis
4 cases

The response of parents to the offer of Vaccinations to children of certain age groups was very satisfactory and far in excess of the number for whom vaccine was available.

DIPHTHERIA

Once again no case of this disease was reported during the year and the district has been free from Diphtheria since 1949. In spite of this the continued immunisation of all young children must be prosecuted with the utmost vigour if we are to maintain this happy state. *Parents tend to be indifferent due perhaps to the absence of diphtheria;* and it is therefore essential to constantly bring home to them their responsibility to take advantage of the protective service provided. **INDIFFERENCE IS DANGEROUS. IMMUNISATION IS SAFE.**

**Diphtheria
no case**

SMALLPOX

No case of Smallpox was reported during the year. As stated in a Ministry of Health Memorandum "Infant vaccination does more than provide young children with immunity to Smallpox—it also ensures that any subsequent vaccination performed perhaps as an emergency measure but more probably as a routine procedure required by reason of service in the Armed Forces or by travel to a country where Smallpox is prevalent, will be less likely to cause a severe local 'reaction.'" We must continue to ensure a high level of immunity to Smallpox in the community.

**Smallpox
no case**

PNEUMONIA

During 1956 13 cases were notified. In this connection it should be appreciated that "Broncho Pneumonia" is not notifiable and such cases are not therefore included here.

**Pneumonia
13 cases**

SECTION C

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

These services are administered by the Lancashire County Council and, for this purpose, Chadderton forms part of Health Division 14. The Medical Officer of Health for Chadderton is also Divisional Medical Officer and the address of the Divisional Health Office is "TYLON," Middleton Road West, Chadderton.

MATERNITY SERVICE

Three midwives are employed to serve this area. Their addresses are as follows :—

Nurse A. Jeffers, 469, Middleton Road, Chadderton. MAI 8043.
Nurse E. S. Mills, 1, Laurel Avenue, Chadderton. MAI 6765.
Nurse C. J. Williams, 59, Owler Lane, Chadderton. FAI 3047.

Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics

Most mothers who are confined at home attend their appropriate ante-natal clinic, where they are seen at regular intervals by their midwife and by the doctor. They are also advised to report to their family doctor from time to time. Blood tests are taken routinely. During the past year, efforts have been made to evolve a system whereby the general practitioners are kept informed of the results of all investigations made at the clinic. Generally, these arrangements have worked well.

The admirable arrangement whereby Dr. J. K. Hardy was engaged part-time at the Obstetric Department at Oldham and District General Hospital, came to an end with her resignation on the 12th January, 1957.

The Relaxation Classes are now being held regularly every second Friday. Physical exercises are given by the Physiotherapist, Mrs. Hall, who also gives simple instruction in the physiology of pregnancy and the mechanism of child-birth.

No. of sessions held during 1956	26
No. of patients attended	51
No. of attendances made	166

After the confinement, the midwives try to persuade the mothers to attend their own doctors or at the clinic for post-natal examination, six weeks after the birth. Post-natal examinations are held at the same time as the ante-natal clinics. It will be seen that only 42 post-natal examinations were done at the clinics during the year. This is not a cause for discouragement as most mothers prefer to attend their family doctors for this examination.

	Central Clinic	Eaves Lane Clinic
No. of sessions	49	51
No. of mothers attending	111	188
No. of attendances made	716	1271
Average number attending per session	14.6	22.9
Average attendances per individual ...	6.45	6.76
No. of post-natal examinations	7	35

Sessions are held weekly as follows :—

Central Clinic Monday 2-4 p.m.

Eaves Lane Clinic Thursdays—By Appointment.

INFANT WELFARE SERVICES

Once the child is born the health services of the community are directed towards ensuring that the child develops into a healthy adult.

Health Visitors

The key member of the Infant Welfare Service is the Health Visitor. In modern public health work, however, child welfare has become only one of the duties of these extremely hard-worked women. Three health visitors are employed in the area, as against the full establishment of four. Two of these are also School Nurses and this assures a continuity of supervision into school life, which is very useful in difficult cases. Since June, 1956, we have obtained the services of a school nurse, who has worked in Chadderton in the mornings and thus relieved the Health Visitors of certain of their School Health Duties.

Soon after the baby is born, the Health Visitor visits the home to advise the mother on any of the many problems which may confront her. She will certainly advise her to bring baby to the nearest Infant Welfare Clinic where the child is kept under observation, so that any defect can be noticed early and dealt with as soon as possible. An important function of these clinics is to set at rest the mother's mind about the deviations from the "average" which so many babies exhibit, which are of no importance but which can assume gigantic proportions in the parents' minds and cause them much unnecessary worry.

The Health Visitors attend all these clinics to weigh the babies and to advise on feeding and other problems. The Assistant Divisional Medical Officer attended this year at 109 sessions. An important part of her work was the vaccination and immunisation of the children attending.

	Central Clinic	Eaves Lane Clinic
Number of sessions	102	100
Number of attendances	3912	3111
Number of Doctor's sessions	18	91
Number of examinations by Doctor ...	382	703
Number of individual children who attended the clinics during the year	400	390

SCHOOL HEALTH

Minor Ailment Clinic

School Health Clinics are held in the same building as the Child Welfare Clinic. Minor Ailment Clinics are held every morning, 9—9-45, at which minor ailments in school children are treated. As in former years, these clinics did not deal with many children, as the services of the family doctor are, since the National Health Service Act, fully available to all.

The Assistant Divisional Medical Officer in his capacity as School Medical Officer attends once a week at each clinic, to deal with minor ailments, if necessary, and also to see children who have been referred for a variety of reasons. Children found at routine medical inspection to have defects which require watching, are seen at these sessions, as well as children taking up spare-time employment and children requiring special education or convalescence.

	Central Clinic	Eaves Lane Clinic
Total number of sessions held	44	72
Number of attendances	249	233
Number of Doctor's sessions	43	38

Immunisation

Since April, 1955, it has been the practice at the County Clinics to immunise all children against tetanus, as well as against diphtheria and whooping cough, unless the parents raise any objection. Much has been written recently about the difficulty of recognising the injury which is likely to have been infected with tetanus and which therefore requires a preventive injection of anti-tetanic serum. The answer to this dangerous disease, which now kills 14 times as many per year as diphtheria, seems to lie in active immunisation, and this can now be done by the use of a triple prophylactic against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. The injections, which are three in number, rarely cause any upset.

Immunisation is offered to all children attending the Child Welfare Clinics at the age of 4 months, and it is advisable for a safety dose to be given at 5 years and again at 10 years. All children at routine medical inspection are given the opportunity of having this injection.

Only if an adequate level of immunisation is maintained can these diseases be eliminated. Experience has shown that in districts where immunisation is below standard the risk of infection can be considerable. It is essential to bring home to the parents and guardians of young children not merely their responsibilities but also how and when they can take advantage of the protective service provided. Also to remind them that if they rarely hear of a case of diphtheria among children they know, this was NOT always so. Immunisation level is below

what was aimed at. That team of workers in which family doctors, health visitors, district nurses, staffs of welfare centres each play their part and they can only be successful if there is full co-operation.

Dental Clinic

Details of attendances made and treatments given at the Eaves Lane Dental Clinic show a big increase on last year's figures. In the following table it will be seen that the number of school children examined showed a fourfold increase. The number actually treated was 956 as against 603 in the previous year. More gratifying still from a preventive point of view is the fact that the number of fillings increased five-fold.

Dental Figures—1956

	School Children	Pre- School	Ante- Natal	Post- Natal
No. examined by Dental Officer	2406	53	28	19
No. found to require treatment	1498	43	24	19
No. referred for treatment	1498	43	24	19
No. actually treated	956	51	28	19
No. of attendances	2407	87	54	38
No. of extractions	T 855	32	—	—
No. of extractions.	P 395	—	16	70
No. of Fillings	T 103	21	—	—
No. of Fillings	P 1337	—	17	14
No. of Dressings	T 25	54	—	—
No. of Dressings	P 834	—	33	21

No. of Sessions — 302.

Ultra Violet Light

A Hanovia lamp is installed at the Central Clinic and Clinics are held for children who are debilitated or who suffer from recurrent colds or bronchitis—a frequent complaint in this area. Children may be referred by family doctors, or by the Assistant Divisional Medical Officer at Child Welfare Clinics or School Medical Inspections.

Number of children who attended for U.V.L. during 1956 ...	63
Number of attendances	405
Number of sessions held	48

Ophthalmic Clinic

This year, the Consultant Ophthalmologist has attended the clinic every week for the treatment of eye disorders in children. Cases in need of orthoptic treatment are referred by him to the local hospitals.

Number of children examined in 1956	307
Number of children for whom glasses were prescribed	203

Orthopædic Clinic

The Consultant Orthopædic Surgeon attends once a month, to see children referred by the Medical Officer. She is assisted by the Physiotherapist who visits once a week to give remedial exercises. (This is an important clinic, because of the large number of early remedial defects of the skeletal system found at medical inspection.)

Number of children examined in 1956	155
Number of attendances	732

Speech Therapy

Miss M. N. Beedham, the Speech Therapist, left in June of this year and no further appointment has so far been made. Four Chadderton children were treated at Firs Hall Clinic, Failsworth, during 1956.

Chiropody

Mr. J. W. Davidson, Chiropodist, was appointed in February, 1956, and held a weekly session in the Central Clinic. This clinic has proved of great value and an extra session will be required next year. Cases are referred by the Medical Officer and the Chiropodist is also making routine inspections of the schools in the area.

Of the children treated at the Foot Clinic, 76% had verruca, 4% had ingrowing nails, 8% had corns and 12% had overlapping toes and flat feet.

No. of individual children attending	91
No. of attendances	363
No. of children discharged or improved	70
No. of children who ceased to attend	2
No. still attending at year end	19

Lip Reading Instructions

Mr. J. J. Finnigan, the County Teacher of the Partially Deaf, attends Eaves Lane Clinic on Tuesday, for the purpose of giving lip reading instruction to Partially Deaf Children from Chadderton, Failsworth and Royton. He also carries out audiometric tests on children referred to him by the Medical Officer. He also carries out routine tests of hearing on children in the schools in this area.

Lip Reading

No. of sessions	3
No. of attendances	7
No. of individual children attending	3

Audiometry Sessions

No. of sessions	5
No. of attendances	24
No. of individual children attending	24

Tuberculosis After-Care

Special Health Visitors are employed to visit patients in their homes to ensure that treatment prescribed by the Chest Physician is carried out; that every possible precaution is taken by the patient against the spread of infection and that, where suitable, additional protection is afforded to family contacts by way of B.C.G. Vaccination.

DOMICILIARY SERVICES

Home Nursing Service

The Lancashire County Council through Health Division No. 14, provides the District Nursing Service and three female district nurses are seconded to Chadderton. The male nurse is available for certain cases as required throughout the Division.

Details of cases attended by the nurses are given below :—

Number of individual cases attended	548
Number of day routine visits	13181
Number of night routine visits	4
Number of casual visits	521

The male nurse has supplied the following figures :—

Number of individual cases on books end of 1955	23
Number of new cases attended to during year 1956	104
	<hr/>
	127
Less cases completed (Convalescent, Hospital, died, etc.)	98
Number of individual cases on books end of 1956	29
Total number of visits	2501

Home Help Service

This service is organised on a Divisional basis and supervised by a domestic help organiser. Help is provided in the home for cases of confinement and short illness of the housewife.

A major portion of the service, however, is devoted to the care of the aged, infirm, chronic sick and cases of sudden acute illness in the home.

The number of Chadderton cases attended is shown below :—

Total number of cases	183
Home Confinements	5
Confinements away from home	2
Sickness	21
Aged and Infirm	152
Tuberculosis	3

HOSPITALS

General and Maternity

Most patients are admitted to one of the two Oldham hospitals, Oldham Royal or Oldham and District General Hospital. Some maternity cases are admitted to the Woodfield Nursing Home, Oldham. Manchester hospitals are also available as required.

Infectious Diseases

Patients suffering from infectious diseases are admitted to either Westhulme Hospital, Oldham, or Monsall Hospital, Manchester, if the severity of the infection requires it.

X-Ray Facilities

These X-Ray facilities for chest cases are provided by the Radiology Department of the Oldham Hospitals.

Venereal Diseases

Treatment for patients suffering from these diseases is provided at the Oldham and District General Hospital.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens of blood from the ante-natal clinics are usually sent to the Pathological Department, Oldham and District General Hospital, or the National Blood Transfusion Service, Royal Infirmary, Manchester. Almost all the pathological specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall, Manchester.

During 1956, 156 faeces specimens were submitted. Of these 24 showed the presence of Sonne Dysentery organism and 7 contained Salmonella Typhi-Murium. 1 contained Shigella flexner and 1 Bacillus Coli and 123 specimens were negative.

Three specimens of blood were submitted for the Influenza tests, one was found to contain Influenza A & B virus and the other two were negative.

Four nose and throat swabs were also sent, all the specimens proved negative to the hæmolytic streptococci or diphtheria organisms.

I am most grateful to Dr. Parker, the Director of the Public Health Laboratory and his staff for their continued support, valued help and co-operation which is so readily given to this Department whenever asked for and is so much appreciated.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS

The responsibility for the care of unmarried mothers is placed upon the local health authority and these cases are dealt with on a Divisional basis. Those in need of help are put in touch with Moral Welfare Organisations and their admission to mother and baby homes may be arranged.

Illegitimate children are given special attention by the Health Visitors and if it is necessary to separate the child from the mother, officers of the Children's Committee of the County Council undertake the supervision of the child.

WELFARE SERVICES

Residential Accommodation for aged persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them, is provided in Hostels of which there are four within this Division. The newest Hostel providing 50 places and sited on Broadway, Chadderton, was opened during the year.

Despite the many amenities and facilities provided it is important to realise that most old people prefer to continue living in their own home however inadequate, to entering Hostels, and they should be helped and encouraged to do so as far as possible. For this reason the work of Voluntary Organisations is most important and indeed the ideal management consists of a full and understanding co-operation of all organisations, Voluntary and Statutory, working towards the same end, namely, the happiness of the Old Folk.

The voluntary body of people, namely, the Chadderton Old People's Welfare Committee is fully represented by those interested in the care of the elderly. Membership includes Councillors, Doctors, District Nurses, Health Visitors, Hospital Almoner, National Insurance and Local Authority Officials together with interested persons from the Churches of the District. The Committee's aims are to further the health and happiness of those growing old. Apart from relieving loneliness, a visiting service is a vital necessity so that we can ascertain the *needs* of the old people in the district. A good visiting service therefore is the key stone to all other voluntary or statutory work for the elderly.

There are now eight Over Sixties Clubs in the district and these provide a weekly meeting place and are well attended and enjoyed by all.

The chiropody service is growing and another clinic has been opened at the Central Clinic. Treatment is given to those who are housebound in their own homes, at a small charge.

The inauguration of a "Meals-on-Wheels" service by the W.V.S. during the year filled a long felt need in the district.

The local health authority has responsibilities in relation to handicapped persons. These include the Blind and the Deaf and those who suffer from other disabilities such as epileptics or spastics. A register of handicapped persons is maintained and help is given to them directly and by co-operation with voluntary bodies.

CONVALESCENCE

Applications for convalescence for adults or children come from hospital almoners, social workers or general practitioners. Financial responsibility rests with the applicant, although help is given in necessitous cases. In addition, the Regional Hospital Board has at its disposal convalescent homes as a continuation of treatment for patients requiring it. Admission to this type of home is arranged by the local Hospital Management Committee.

NURSERIES

Day nurseries provide a useful service for mothers who wish or are forced to go out to work, although the major share of the cost of the County Council Nurseries is borne by the ratepayers. The two county nurseries were open for 245 days during the year and both have 33 places available for children.

In addition to the County nurseries seven cotton mills in the district provide accommodation for children whose mothers work in the mills.

Ages	1956	
	Total Attendances at County Nurseries	
	Brook Street	Coalshaw Green
0-1 year	1922	2223
2-4 years	5519	5681

AMBULANCE SERVICES

Chadderton patients are removed to hospital by the vehicles of the Lancashire County Council. During 1956 the Ambulance Officer reports that there has been an increase over 1955.

Patients going to hospital for general treatment	6045
Emergency calls	560
Infectious Disease	20
	<hr/>
	6625
	<hr/>

CHILDREN ACT, 1948

Local Authorities have a duty under the provisions of the Children Act, 1948, to provide for the care of children deprived of normal home life, who are resident in their area, and the Lancashire County Council's Children's Department undertakes this responsibility in so far as the Chadderton area is concerned.

The administration of this service in the County of Lancashire has been decentralised to Area Children's Departments, and the Area Children's Officer for the Chadderton district is Miss D. M. Thompson, Children's Department, "Enville House," Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne (Telephone ASHton 2933).

The following report has been provided by Miss Thompson for the year 1956 :—

	Families	Children
Number of applications for children to come into care	16	31
Number of children received into care of the Lancashire County Council	8	16
Other arrangements made	8	15

Of the children received into care, only two children (of the same family) were committed by the Courts to the care of the local authority as a "fit person" on the grounds of neglect by their parents. This family has recently been re-housed and the prospects of rehabilitation are favourable with early hopes of the parents resuming the care of their children.

More than half the number of cases received into care under the provisions of the Children Act, 1948, was due to family illness, mainly on the part of the mother, the father being unable to care for the children and maintain his full time employment, and no relatives or neighbours being able to assist in any way. Some of these cases involved a fairly long period of hospitalization for the mother. A third of the cases involved arose through desertion by the mother and in only one case was eviction of the family the contributory factor necessitating acceptance into care.

Only four enquiries from prospective foster parents were received during 1956 from the Chadderton area, of which three were approved and one later withdrawn for personal reasons. The authority very carefully investigates all applications for fostering, and some applicants later realise that implications of taking a child into their home are more difficult than at first anticipated, particularly as placements may involve a certain amount of re-arrangement in their home. The Lancashire County Children's Committee continues to appeal for foster homes, by publicity through public and private meetings, various forms of advertisement, and through numerous channels of contact within the area.

The Area Children's Committee, which meets each month at various venues in its area, review the placement, progress and future of all children in its care, and Mr. Councillor R. H. Hodgson represents the Chadderton Urban District Council at these meetings.

Regular meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee set up to deal with families in need of help and guidance are held, and those attending include the Divisional Medical Officer of Health, Area Children's Officer, local N.S.P.C.C. Inspector, appropriate Health Visitor and School Attendance Officer, the Probation Officer and other interested persons. These meetings prove invaluable in dealing with families whose "problems" may concern various departments and call upon their respective resources.

SECTION D

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Atmospheric Pollution produced by combustion of coal and allied products has, as its three main components Smoke, Grit and Ash, and Sulphur Dioxide. The following table, based on estimates given in the Beaver Report shows the pollution discharged annually in the United Kingdom. The figures are in millions of tons, those in brackets being the quantity of fuel used in each class :—

Coal Uses	Smoke	Grit	Sulphur Dioxide
Domestic (36.8)	0.9	0.1	0.9
General Industry (64.6)	0.8	0.3	1.8
Electricity (36.7)	Small	0.3	1.0
Railways (13.8)	0.3	0.1	0.4
Others (approx. 30)	Small	Small	1.1
Totals	2.0	0.8	5.2

The consequences of such vast amounts of pollution may be briefly referred to :—

Health

- (a) *Obstruction of Sunlight and Beneficial Rays of the Sun.*

This can amount to 50% obstruction.

- (b) *Psychological.*

“The psychological effects of reduced light and sunshine may be no less serious than the physical defects” (Beaver Report).

- (c) *Respiratory Illness.*

The co-relation between atmospheric pollution and bronchitis is indicated by :

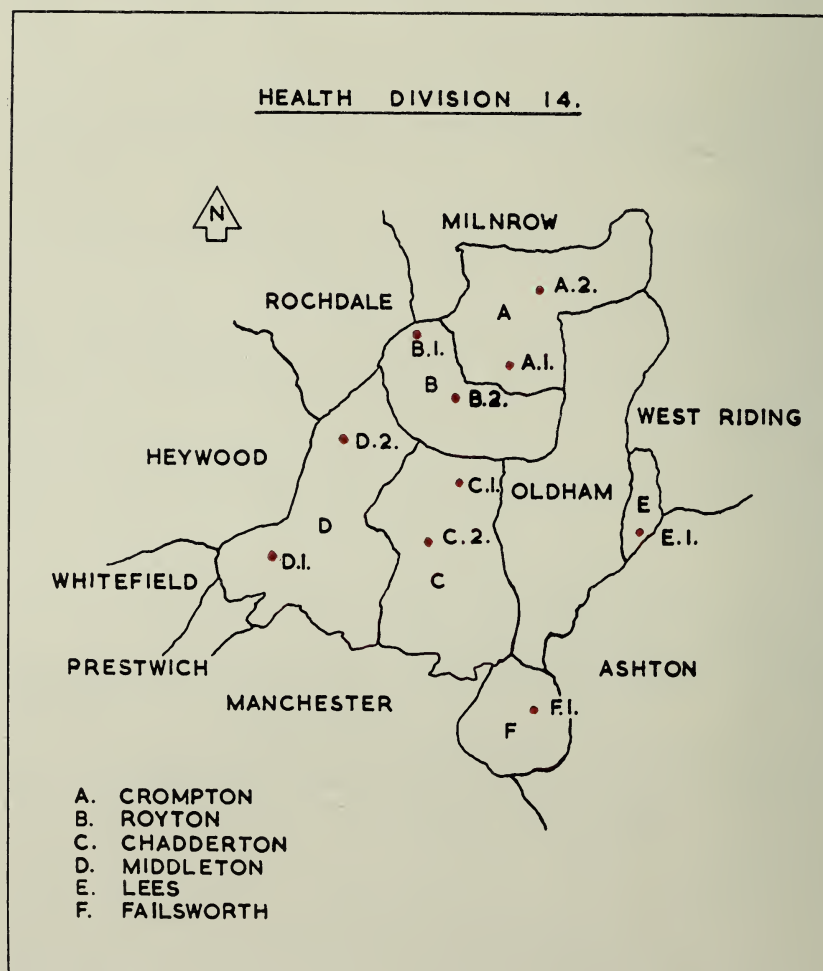
- (i) The high respiratory death rate for industrial and urban areas compared with rural areas.
- (ii) The high respiratory death rate of this Country compared with others.
- (iii) The disaster such as occurred in 1952, when fog and the build-up of atmospheric pollution was estimated to have caused over 4,000 deaths. During the time of the “smog” the average daily concentration of smoke and sulphur dioxide over a considerable area rose to about five times and at some points 10 times the normal reading.

Economic

Financial loss, estimated at around two hundred million pounds per year occurs through wastage of fuel and damage to buildings, materials and plant life.

MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Various methods are available depending on what particular constituent is being measured. In common with surrounding districts, Chadderton belongs to the Manchester and District Smoke Abatement Society and pays for two lead peroxide gauges sited at the Grammar School and at Birch Avenue. These are used for measuring the sulphur dioxide content of the atmosphere. Very simply the gauge consists of a louvred box containing a material coated with a chemical which reacts with the sulphur dioxide in the air. Each month, by chemical analysis, the amount of reaction that has taken place is calculated and the results expressed in terms of sulphur trioxide per unit surface area of the chemical material. Individual findings are subject to so many variable factors that a true interpretation of results in any district can only be based on repeated observations at a large number of points over a period of years. Nor can the results in any one district be fairly related to that in another, unless among other

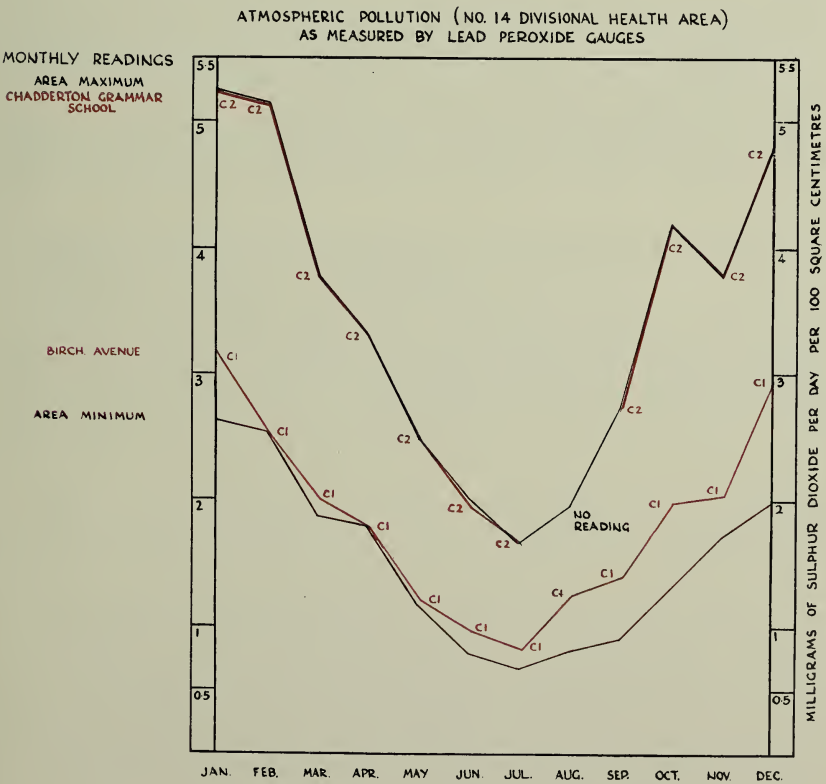


things, the siting of the instruments are fully comparable. It is the practice in interpreting the results to compare summer and winter periods with like periods. The attached graph shows the maximum and minimum readings obtained for each month of 1956 from the 10 instruments located in the six districts of this Health Division, namely, Chadderton, Middleton, Failsworth, Royton, Crompton and Lees.

In making comparisons and assessing whether there are lasting changes or trends in the amount of sulphur dioxide emitted, the important factors are :—

- (a) seasonal variations in the emission of sulphur dioxide.
- (b) seasonal variations in the frequency of winds of different directions.
- (c) irregular variations in the frequency of winds.

As shown on the graph, there is a yearly cycle of emission of sulphur dioxide wherein emission is less in summer than in winter, the latter reading being on the average over the whole country twice as high as the former. This is due in the main to the absence of domestic fires in the summer season. Where more frequent measurements are made, a weekly cycle due to industrial shut-down and amounting to a reduction of something in the order of



20% in smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution has been found to occur. Seasonal variations can also be due to the frequency of winds from different directions—whether they come from ‘clean’ or ‘dirty’ directions.

The following extract from the report of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research on observations into atmospheric pollution in the ten years ended 31-3-54 are of interest, showing general trends of pollution taking the Country as a whole—“the trends in pollution by smoke and sulphur dioxide both appear to have been downward. Some reduction of smoke would be expected to accompany improved combustion conditions in Industry. A further reduction of smoke and some reduction of sulphur dioxide at ground level are likely to have resulted from the increased use of gas and electricity in substitution for domestic coal, the consumption of which decreased by 20% between 1939/44 and 1949/54.”

As elsewhere, the initial excitement which accompanied the birth of the Clean Air Act has now given way to a calm appraisal of the duties and responsibilities involved. Successful action against atmospheric pollution is based essentially on a public alive to the ill-effects of a polluted atmosphere. Furthermore, the more obvious and more general pollution from factory chimneys must first be checked before the private householder can fairly be expected to appreciate the need for having to deal with his own relatively small domestic contribution. Without doubt, the greatest obstacle to rapid progress is the high cost of smokeless fuels. However, much and however rightly the experts argue that, even at present prices, smokeless fuels in terms of heat calories are more economical than raw coal, the fact remains that for the ordinary householder, shillings, unlike calories, can be felt as well as seen.

Accepting the position as it now is, the least that can be done is firstly to ensure, by co-operation where possible, the gradual elimination of industrial smoke and air pollution. Secondly, a local survey should be made to ascertain what exactly would be involved in establishing a smoke control area in the district. Initially, perhaps, a start could be made with new housing estates or in estates now being constructed.

Health Department,
422 Middleton Road,
Chadderton.
July, 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present this, my ninth annual report upon the sanitary inspections made of environmental conditions within the area, and it is with pleasure I submit the statement of the work done during 1956. I do this as the Senior Public Health Inspector not as the Senior Sanitary Inspector, legislation having altered the designation during the year.

Following upon your decision to increase the establishment, Mr. Eric Brooks took up his appointment as an Additional Inspector in January, and the department consequently enjoyed the experience of being fully staffed for the year under review.

The year was not without incident, and with the coming into effect of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, more work was entailed in the inspection of food premises to see that the new standards were enforced. I take this opportunity of stating the appreciation of the staff for the co-operation of the traders. The majority were only too anxious to comply with the main provisions of the regulations and as yet there has been no need to have recourse to statutory action. Not all the premises are fully up to standard but work is progressing and some of the delays are due to labour difficulties.

Slum Clearance made progress and a number of areas were formally represented and orders made.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, made its impact upon the Department, and as the legislation becomes more effective it is now felt that the campaign for cleaner air will show definite results. With science at a high level there is no valid reason for large amounts of smoke in industrial areas.

As in previous years I am once again privileged to comment in the text of the report upon the varied aspects of the administration so further comment is unnecessary at this stage.

My sincere thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the active co-operation given in formulating schemes of improvement in the Cleansing Services, for the consideration shown when other schemes were not always approved, and for the generally happy relationship which exists. To the officers of other departments I say thanks for assistance in presenting this report and for the many courtesies extended

during the year. I am indebted to the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. O'Grady, for his very valuable help at all times, and for the way in which he so readily discusses problems of administration. I cannot finish without mention of the way in which the staff of the Department worked so well together always willing to see a job through, and never a grumble if asked to do a little extra. I appreciate the team spirit in the office, and hope that as changes occur, and there are bound to be some, there shall be no alteration in the atmosphere that now exists.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES MANN,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SECTION E

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

The table following indicates the number of visits and inspections of varying nature paid by the staff, such visits not being recorded in the more sectionalised parts of the report.

It will be noted that visits with regard to defective dustbins are the most numerous, and from this it can be gathered that considerable office administration is also involved. The dustbin, so often despised and so very often misused, is a vital part of a public cleansing service, yet it is one which in Chadderton is not provided by the authority. I fully realise a vexed question of policy arises when one introduces this matter, but I remain of the opinion that the provision of the dustbin as a rate borne charge would be advantageous and it may well be that many of the complaints now received would be eliminated if the dustbins were the Council's property. It can be reported that the Committee is giving this matter further consideration with a view to framing policy for the financial year 1958/59.

Referring to the work concerning the provision of dustbins I have to report that following upon the service of a Statutory Notice on one landlord he appealed to the Local Magistrates Court under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and asked that the notice be served on the tenant. His appeal failed, but the fact that an appeal was lodged meant increased work and if many landlords tested the magistrates then the administration would be still heavier taxed.

Table VII

Number of visits to cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	64
Number of visits to cases of Food Poisoning	...	...	18
Number of disinfections carried out	...	...	18
Re-inspections of notices served	...	...	3145
Visits re vermin	...	...	292
„ to factories	...	...	280
„ to stables and piggeries	...	...	8
„ re offensive trades	...	...	11
„ re Smoke observations	...	...	109
„ re Shops Act	...	...	763
„ to Schools	...	...	29
„ re Drains and Drain Tests	...	...	1043
„ to defective dustbins	...	...	1393
„ re Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	...	...	511
„ re Offensive Accumulations	...	...	29
„ re Water Supply	...	...	22
„ re Swimming Bath Water Sampling	...	...	23
„ re Pet Animals Act and Keeping of Poultry	...	...	3
„ to Marine Stores	...	...	21
„ re Public Cleansing	...	...	151

Visits to Tip and Salvage Depot	...	...	...	...	...	367
„ re Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	23
„ to Rag Flock Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ re Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	17
„ re Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	985
„ re Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	445
„ re Sanitary Pails	...	...	...	...	...	87
„ to Tents, Vans, Sheds and Fairgrounds	...	...	...	...	...	14
Interviews and other visits	...	...	...	...	...	567

Notices Served

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	1611
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
No. of Dustbins sold	...	...	...	...	...	...	740

Statutory Notices

Public Health Act, 1936.							
Section 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Section 39	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Section 45	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Section 47	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Section 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Section 83	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Section 93	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Housing Act, 1936.							
Section 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factories Act,							
Section 7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total							150

Notices Complied With

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	846
Statutory Notices by owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Statutory Notices complied with by Council in Default of Owner							57
No. of summary proceedings taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Table VIII

DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED DURING 1956.

	Found	Remedied
Defective and damp walls	15	11
„ roofs	63	56
„ chimney stacks	17	14
„ pointing and brickwork of walls	38	25
„ rainwater pipes and eavesgutters	71	52
„ drains	47	43
„ waste pipes and channels	9	5
„ Yard paving and paths	5	2
„ closets (fresh water)	15	12

Defective closets (waste water)	64	55
„ sanitary pails	2	—
„ dustbins	691	688
„ ceilings	10	10
„ plaster	49	44
„ floors and stairs	17	11
„ doors, windows and sashcords ...	45	43
„ sinks	4	4
„ kitchen ranges, fireplaces and flues	10	7
Dirty conditions and vermin	1	1
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accom- modation at Factories ...	1	5
Cleansing and lime washing of food premises	1	1

WATER SUPPLY

Chadderton's water supply is from three sources, the biggest proportion being drawn from the Oldham Corporation Undertaking, the other suppliers continuing to be Manchester Corporation which provides water to the Moston area, and the Heywood and Middleton Water Board which supplies the Middleton Junction area.

Very few complaints are received relating to the quality, the water having a low degree of hardness and coming from upland surface gathering grounds, but Chadderton continues to have the problem of low pressure at some houses.

With the introduction of modern sanitary amenities and the fact that the size of service pipes has not been increased where there are a number of houses on one service connection from the mains then pressure in those premises furthest from the main pipe is often low and occasionally there are some delays in securing a supply. This is particularly so when two or more tenants are drawing water simultaneously. It is admitted that there is legislation to govern this, but to apply the legislative powers is by no means easy when the Local Authority is not the Water Undertaking. It may be suggested that this is an inopportune time to mention this matter and it can be argued that during 1956 practically no complaints were received, but it is known the problem exists, and as further improvements to existing houses are carried out and whilst the servicing from the water mains is not improved then the position can and probably will become more acute.

There are no standpipes in the district, and except for a very few houses, which are approximately 36 farmsteads and cottages, all the houses have an internal piped supply. Conditions would be much improved if it could be reported that each of these houses with piped supply was on a separate service from the mains and many complications would also be obviated.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Four streams flow through the district but these are under the supervision of the Mersey Rivers Board's Inspectors. During the year there has been no occasion on which specific action was required.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

I am indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor for the provision of details concerning new sewers laid during the year. He reports that 428 lineal yards of new sewerage were laid in Chadderton Park Road and Long Lane.

He further states that there have been no material alterations to the sewage works or treatment of the sewage pending the pumping of the whole of the sewage to the Oldham works, in connection with which negotiations are proceeding.

The drain labourer made 1,197 visits in attempts to clear blockages and the Public Health Inspectors made 833 inspections and carried out 210 drain tests.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

An attempt was made early in the year to have the Council adopt a plan whereby in approximately four to five years all the waste water closets in Chadderton would be abolished, but monetary consideration overruled the effort to improve sanitary conditions throughout the district.

Since the days of Edwin Chadwick sanitary progress has been impeded by financial worries but considerable progress has been made, and experience has shown the money used in sanitary improvements was well spent. Waste water closets are admitted to be insanitary, and out of date. They may have served a purpose when first installed, but they give rise to some considerable nuisance, and many people from other districts who have never seen such conveniences express disgust and dissatisfaction when taking up residence at houses where there are such closets. It is true to say that the Council has adopted the principle of paying towards the cost of conversion from waste water to fresh water closets, and some are taking advantage of the offer, but money could and would be saved if a policy of proceeding in a statutory manner under the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act were adopted. I am of the opinion that the abolition of the waste water closets in Chadderton is one of the many sanitary requirements of the district, and I am convinced that more positive action by the Council will be necessary if such abolition is to be achieved in the next few years.

Whilst, in considering the details as given in the tabulated statement, one can say that there are fewer waste water closets than existed at the beginning of the year, it must be noted that most of the conversions have been done by owner-occupiers who have realised the advantages. The rate of conversion, however, in my opinion is much too slow.

Details concerning sanitary accommodation in the district will be found in the table below :

Table IX
CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Type of Closet	Converted to W.C., 1956	Number at end of 1956
Pail Closets	17	127
Waste Water Closets	125	2,231
Trough Closets	10	150
Fresh Water Closets	—	10,184
	152	12,692

DISINFESTATION

There is little to say concerning this aspect of the service, except that regular inspection of tenants' houses is carried out prior to removal to any Council house, and Council-owned houses also receive inspection upon changes of tenancy.

The householder who complains of any type of vermin infestation is advised as to the best method of irradiation and often materially assisted by the Department in so far that insecticides are supplied and, where required, spraying and disinfestation is carried out by members of the Staff.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council continues to employ a full-time rodent operative who carries out surveys and treatment of rodent infested properties. To comply with the Ministry's requirements two treatments of the sewers were carried out and test baiting of the whole system was done during August.

Where any dwelling house is found to be infested, treatment is carried out without charge to owner or occupier, but charges are made for servicing at any business premises.

I wrote last year that many infestations by rats are due to defective drainage systems, and that attention to the drainage is given when any infestation is noted. The reduction of the rat population in sewers is having a marked effect upon the infestations noted, and during 1956 it was only necessary to ask for 57 drainage repairs. The fact that of the 309 manholes baited, takes were noted in only 80, is some indication that the regular treatment is gradually having effect.

A tabulated statement set out below gives fuller details.

Table X
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Local Author- ity	Dwelling Houses (Inc. Coun- cil Houses)	All other (including Business Premises)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	Agri- cultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District ...	18	11,383	1,527	12,928	34
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification	—	325	44	371	—
(b) Survey under the Act ...	18	15	15	77	34
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	101	4	105	—
III. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	34	1,656	142	1,832	238
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats—Major	1	—	1	2	—
—Minor	6	288	28	322	—
(b) Mice—Major	—	—	2	2	—
—Minor	1	143	15	159	—
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the Local Authority	8	393	32	433	—
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	12	416	44	472	—
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

SEWER TREATMENTS

Number of manholes in the district—1,241

	Feb.	Aug.
Number of manholes baited	505	578
Number of manholes showing prebait take	106	67
Number of manholes showing complete take	99	58

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The alterations carried out in 1955 resulted in a much improved refuse collection service during 1956.

The service is now operated by the use of two rear loading vehicles with a compression mechanism and each of 18 cubic yards capacity and one seven cubic yards side loading vehicle. The rear loading vehicles are manned by a driver and six loaders, and a driver and four loaders operate the side loading machine. A moving floor rear loading vehicle manned by a driver and loader is used mainly in the collection of bulky salvage material and a tipping lorry manned by a driver and loader is used for the carrying of covering material to the tip and the collection of refuse from varying trade premises and the like. It is true to say that for the greater part of the year a seven-day collection was maintained, and it was only at holiday periods when the time between collections became greater than seven days.

The disposal of the refuse is carried out by controlled tipping, ashes from industrial plants being the principal form of coverage, and the spreading being done by a Muledozer operated by a Fordson tractor. Street cleansing is carried out by six street orderlies, with orderly trucks, and a mechanical sweeper-collector. A new sweeper-collector began operating in November following a period of approximately three months when there had been no mechanical sweeping due to failure of the old machine. Except for the period mentioned the main streets and the bulk of the side streets were regularly swept throughout the year.

The regular cleansing of street gullies is carried out by employees of the Engineer and Surveyor's Department. Two men operated an 800-gallon gully emptying machine and there were very few complaints concerning choked gullies.

One could write to considerable length on the cleansing services, commenting on various aspects of the work. There are those who often make unfavourable remarks as to the attitude of the men engaged in the service, but there are also those who praise the work done and are appreciative of the type of service given. Before leaving the subject I would like to pay personal tribute to the men who operate the service. It should be said more often, that the work is far from ideal. After allowance has been made for scientific and mechanical improvements there still remain the problems of overcoming dust, the nuisance from the dustbin that has not been used in a proper manner by the householder, the inclement weather when the service still has to be maintained, the disgruntled householder who thinks the men are all idlers, and the fact that the wage does not compare too favourably with that of many other unskilled operatives as no overtime is worked. Thanks at least are owed to the men who have to put up with the many and varied criticisms, yet continue to carry on a regular collection.

Details of the amount of refuse collected by the different vehicles and the refuse disposed of are as follows:—

Table XI

PUBLIC CLEANSING

DETAILS AS TO COLLECTION OF REFUSE

Petrol Driven Engined Vehicles

No. of Motor	No. of dustbins emptied	No. of loads	Weight to tip			Average weight per load			Average No. of dustbins per load
			tons	cwts.	qrs.	tons	cwts.	qrs.	
21	400	5	3	15	—	—	15	—	80.
23	27,037	264	406	1	—	1	10	3	102.4
24	49,507	494	470	4	—	—	19	—	100.2
25	57,311	585	468	7	—	—	16	—	97.9
27	2,900	39	30	12	—	—	15	2	74.3
28	137,557	1,434	1,192	9	—	—	16	2	95.2
274,712			2,821	2,571	8	—	18	—	97.3

Diesel Driven Engined Vehicles

29	148,022	501	1,553	5	2	3	2	—	295.4
30	155,026	540	1,607	6	5	2	19	2	287.0
303,048			3,160	12	3	3	—	2	291.1

No. of loads of Nightsoil to sewage works 173
 No. of loads of covering material to tip 500
 No. of miscellaneous loads to tip 20

A salvage scheme came into operation in May and this appears to have assisted in stabilising the labour situation. There have been fewer changes in personnel and I think this is because of the bonus payment made on the quantity of salvaged material sold. Employees have averaged a weekly bonus of approximately five shillings and the tendency is towards an increase in the bonus as the scheme progresses. The following table shows the type of materials salvaged and the gross income of the Council:—

Table XII

SALVAGE COLLECTION AND INCOME

	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	79	14	3	—	598	—	7½
Scrap tins	50	1	1	—	244	7	11
Rags	1	3	1	16	24	17	8
Carpets and Sacking	1	17	3	—	18	6	9
Woollens	—	2	—	22	13	15	8
Aluminium	—	11	3	—	66	12	6
Heavy Iron	3	1	—	—	21	12	—
Light Iron	3	17	2	—	16	17	6
Lead and Zinc	—	1	—	22	5	2	6
Copper	—	1	3	6	18	5	4
Brass	—	3	3	—	22	4	6¼
Bottles	—	10	—	—	2	—	—
String	—	1	—	—	—	6	—
Kraft Paper	—	1	3	2	14	2	—
Total	141	9	—	12	£1,066	10	11¾

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The principal event during the year was the passing through Parliament of the Clean Air Act, 1956. This Act received Royal Assent on 5th July, and its main purposes are :—

- (a) to prohibit the emission of dark smoke from chimneys of all types;
- (b) to ensure that all new industrial furnaces shall be, as far as is practicable, constructed to operate smokelessly;
- (c) to minimise grit and dust emission from industrial furnaces;
- (d) to empower Local Authorities by order to bring into being “ smoke control areas ”;
- (e) to regulate the height of any new chimney.

One now looks forward to the date of operation of the various sections with the hope that very soon the smoke nuisance will disappear.

In the meantime, the work during 1956 consisted in making some preparation for the new legislation, and the Council's inspectors made a survey of the industrial plants in the district so that recommendations can be made at the appropriate time.

The lead peroxide instruments situated near the Grammar School and in Birch Avenue continued to be maintained by the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution Joint Scheme No. 2, and it is worth paying attention to the results as supplied to the Council. Sulphur dioxide cannot be seen but its effects on life can be serious and it would appear that the estimation of this form of pollution, particularly near the Grammar School, is somewhat disturbing. It may well be that there will be a reduction of this form of pollution in the year we are now passing through, but in seeking elimination of what the eye can see I would urge that we do not forget the unseen dangers. Public opinion may yet have to be more fully awakened and people will have to learn that the burning of raw coal economically and effectively is something that will have to be done, and not merely talked about.

In seeking a reduction in atmospheric pollution it is realised that expenditure will have to be met and the cost of the varying installations may be somewhat heavy, but in hygienic progress this has ever been so when some revolutionary scheme came into being. The cost of sewerage schemes, the cost of making good roads, the provisions of improved lighting, the provision of modern sanitation and similar amenities have all meant fairly heavy initial costs, but the benefits derived have been immense and no one wishes to return to the conditions that existed prior to 1875. It behoves us then to view the improving of the atmosphere in our industrial areas in much the same way. There is no real reason to look at the sun through a smoke haze, and more sunshine means improved health. It is hoped that sufficient funds, sufficient fuels of the approved type, and all other essentials will be made available so that the full benefit of the sunshine can be realised.

Before the end of 1956 the Health Committee had under consideration means of providing publicity on this subject, and for implementing the provisions of the Clean Air Act with regard to Smoke Control Areas. The next few years may see marked progress.

Though no statutory action for smoke nuisances was taken during 1956 it cannot be assumed that the atmosphere was free from pollution. Many of the industrial chimney emissions were of such density that, when Section 1 of the Clean Air Act becomes operative, if such emissions continue there will be offences under the provisions of the Act, and the Committee will need to take appropriate action.

Details of the number of observations taken during the year, and a tabulation of the results obtained from the lead peroxide instruments showing the sulphur dioxide rate of pollution are given in the tables which follow.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS—1956

Number of half-hourly observations	104
Number of minutes of black smoke	41½
Number of minutes of moderate smoke	869
Number of minutes of slight or no smoke	2,209½

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION—

JOINT SCHEME No. 2

RESULTS FOR 1956

Estimates of Sulphur Dioxide Expressed in Mgms.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
CHADDERTON												
Birch Avenue	3.19	2.55	2.03	1.81	1.22	0.98	0.83	1.25	1.40	1.98	2.03	2.93
Grammar School	5.23	5.12	3.79	3.31	2.48	1.95	1.66	*	2.74	4.18	3.78	4.77
CROMPTON												
Shaw, Croft Bank	3.10	2.48	1.89	1.81	1.22	0.80	0.73	0.95	1.33	1.57	1.72	2.75
Shaw, Home Farm	3.37	2.81	2.78	2.42	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
FAILSWORTH												
Highways Depot	4.49	3.63	2.39	2.57	1.92	2.02	1.36	1.91	1.00	3.21	3.16	3.17
LEES												
Cemetery	2.84	2.81	1.87	1.87	1.18	0.98	0.81	1.02	1.04	1.64	2.08	1.99
MIDDLETON												
Thornham School	*	*	*	*	*	1.93	1.22	1.97	2.33	2.85	3.17	4.20
Town Hall	2.64	2.80	2.41	2.16	1.18	0.86	0.68	0.82	0.92	1.32	1.96	2.47
ROYTON												
Hanging Chadder Farm	4.30	3.91	3.43	2.61	2.00	1.55	1.32	1.49	1.99	2.97	2.54	3.86
Royton Park	3.78	2.71	2.48	2.17	1.60	1.26	0.96	1.31	1.54	1.94	2.28	3.29

* Post broken or cylinder damaged.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

There is little to report or comment upon concerning this aspect of the work done by the Department. Regular inspection of the sanitary accommodation as provided in the various industrial establishments was made.

There is active liaison between the Surveyor's Department and the Health Department so that all plans submitted are seen by the Inspectors and thus adequate sanitary accommodation is assured before plans are approved.

The action taken under the appropriate sections as administered by the Local Authority is shown in the following tabulated statement.

Only one establishment reports the employment of outworkers and provided the requisite list as required by Section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937.

Table XIII
FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors), during 1956.

Premises	Number on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	25	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local authority	184	252	5	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	15	10	1	—
Total	221	287	7	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which pro secutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defec- tive	5	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for the sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	6	—	1	—

SWIMMING BATHS

The plunge bath continues to be a great source of attraction and the Baths Superintendent in his report states that it was used by 37,170 children from schools in the area. A total of 806 old aged pensioners used the slipper baths during the year.

The washhouse which was opened in December, 1955, has operated successfully during the year and many women have taken advantage of this added amenity. Such provision is of material benefit to residents in the area even in this age of home electric and gas washers. It can worthily be termed an aspect of public health service.

Regular sampling of the water in the plunge bath was done during 1956 and satisfactory results were obtained. This is a tribute to the filtration and chlorination methods adopted to purify the 90,000 gallons of water which fills the bath.

SCHOOLS

Only one school of the 18 in the district has not yet been provided with proper water closet accommodation, but plans have been submitted for the necessary conversion in this case. It has been a matter of regret in the Department that all schools did not have water closets which had separate flushing cisterns and were merely a form of trough closet, but improvements have been made and, at the end of 1957, one may be able to report that conversions have been completed in all schools. It cannot be said, however, that the sanitary accommodation throughout is in line with the Regulations of 1954.

I wish I could write that handwashing facilities are satisfactory in the schools. One hears of the provision of television sets in some instances, the provision of other visual aids, adequate playing fields accommodation, and such like facilities, but little mention is made with regard to fixing an adequate number of washbasins with hot and cold water laid on, and the provision of nailbrushes and towels to meet fully the needs of the children. Is not such provision a most important visual aid in the teaching of what should be a most important part of the school curriculum?

During the year 29 visits were paid to the schools in the district.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The only tripe boiling establishment in Chadderton was visited on 11 occasions during the year.

MARINE STORE DEALERS AND BROKERS

There appears to be money to be made in dealing in rags and scrap metal, judging by the number of registrations which had to be made during 1956. Altogether there are now a total of 12 such establishments in the urban area. The police keep a watchful eye

on these dealers in scrap metal, but where rags are the principal commodity the inspectors are the persons who see that no nuisance is created. During the year one occupier of an establishment had to be cautioned, but at the end of the year these particular premises were burnt out and are no longer used for rag sorting and baling.

A total of 21 visits was paid to the marine stores and similar premises during the year.

RAG FLOCK PREMISES

No manufacturing of rag flock was carried out during 1956 and only one user of the material is registered under the provisions of the Act. Only a very small quantity is used and it was not thought necessary to sample the commodity.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM AND CALCIUM CARBIDE

The supervision of premises where petroleum and calcium carbide are stored is one of the ancillary duties of the Senior Inspector and during 1956 he made 17 visits to such premises. Whilst there are no enforceable bye-laws in Chadderton it is worthy of note that where any new installations are contemplated the inspector is consulted, and his recommendations are put into effect. During 1956 there were two new installations and at the end of the year 46 licences had been issued.

SECTION F

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD PREMISES

The most important event of the year concerning the hygienic production of food was the operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations which took effect from the beginning of the year, and allowed until 1st July for the completion of the necessary alterations that were required to bring premises into conformity with the new requirements. The proper use of the improvements is what is now required, but more and more are becoming aware of the dangers of dirty hands and the like with a consequent improvement in standards of food hygiene. The importance of personal hygiene however cannot be overstressed and I make no apology for referring to it. Inspectors cannot be in premises each day and they may find little to complain of at the time of the visits, but the food handler can ensure full safety by scrupulous cleanliness at all times.

A statistical statement follows, and this gives details of the total number of visits, action taken and improvements made during the year :

Table XIV

FOOD PREMISES—1956

Type	No.	Visits	Wash-basins fitted	Hot Water Installed	New Sinks fitted	Other Improvements
Canteens — Cafes, School Meal Centres	45	172	8	-	-	-
Bakehouses and Confectioners	24	149	18	7	1	2
Fried Fish Shops	28	101	11	3	2	1
Butchers	39	130	14	4	6	7
Grocers	135	411	25	7	3	4
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	28	104	4	1	2	1
S h o p s (selling sweets, ice cream, minerals, etc.) & Snack Bars	24	98	2	1	1	-
Chemists	6	-	-	-	-	-
Dairies, Milkshops and Milk Purveyors	168	290	-	-	-	-
Licensed Premises	64	84	-	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses ..	2	380	1	-	-	-

MEAT INSPECTION

Inspection of all cattle, sheep and pigs slaughtered during 1956 was maintained, and the two operating slaughterhouses were frequently visited. Three cases of cysticercosbovis were discovered, but there is suitable refrigeration provision in the area, and the butcher owning this readily co-operated, so that the recommended control was affected.

Butchers' shops came in for regular inspection and again the new regulations proved of material benefit.

Table XV
MEAT INSPECTION—1956

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	523	215	45	2,598	396	—
Number Inspected	523	215	45	2,598	396	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	84	36	—	13	12	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.06%	16.74%	0.0%	0.5%	3.03%	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	38	49	—	—	6	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.45%	23.25%	0.0%	0.0%	1.51%	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Weight Condemned — 3,839 lbs.						

MILK SUPPLY

Chadderton is in the happy position of being in an area governed by a Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, which took effect in 1953, and thus all milk retailed within the district is heat treated or produced by Tuberculin Tested Herds. This is bound to have an effect upon the health of the populace though one can still hear the odd statement of "I prefer the milk direct from the cow." There yet remains the person who cannot understand all this "new fangled" business of heating milk and delivering it in bottles.

The plain fact is that since the order took effect no samples have been reported upon as containing tubercle bacilli and during 1956 of the 21 samples taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory 20 were reported upon as satisfactory and in the remaining case no result was obtained owing to a technical fault at the Public Health Laboratory.

Safe milk is thus being consumed, and as time goes on the benefits will be much more noticeable, despite the criticisms of less cream and differing taste.

The full details of the types of licences issued and the sampling results and action taken are tabulated.

Table XVI

MILK SUPPLY

No. of Milk distributors	158
No. of licences to retail pasteurised milk	44
No. of licences to retail sterilised milk	155
No. of licences to retail tuberculin tested milk	28
No. of licences to retail tuberculin tested milk (pasteurised)	9
No. of Supplementary licences—pasteurised milk	11
No. of Supplementary licences—sterilised milk	10
No. of Supplementary licences—tuberculin tested milk	8
No. of Supplementary licences—tuberculin tested milk (pasteurised)	4

Table XVII

ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLES TAKEN IN THE DISTRICT DURING 1956

RESULTS

	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No result
(a) RAW MILK.				
I. Tuberculosis- biological tests	6	6	-	-
II. Methylene Blue Reduction test	4	4	-	-
III. B. Coli exams. ...	-	-	-	-
IV. Sediment tests ...	-	-	-	-
(b) "HEAT TREATED" MILK.				
I. Tuberculosis	2	2	-	-
(c) PASTEURISED.				
II. Phosphatase test	5	5	-	-
III. Methylene Blue Reduction test	5	4	-	1 Void
(d) STERILISED.				
IV. Turbidity test ...	1	1	-	-

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

Early in the year a series of film shows were given in schools and some works canteens, and these were well received. About 497 children saw the film and the canteen audiences totalled 463. Essays on the films were invited for submission by the scholars and at a later meeting 23 children received money prizes. The local newspaper, the Oldham Chronicle, gave valuable assistance in the way of running a painting competition and children were asked to pick out the faults of the kitchen painted. A special film show was given when the prizes were presented. It is thought that by educating school leavers in the way of clean handling of food and personal hygiene a long term result is assured.

Another interesting meeting was that held in the canteen of the Central Electricity Board's Power Station at Slacks Valley. Members were able to inspect a modern canteen and were later privileged to see how the electricity, so much used in production of food, was generated.

Table XVIII**UN SOUND FOOD CONDEMNED—1956**

	lbs.	ozs.
Bacon	3	8
Beef	171	—
Chicken (not dressed)	5	12
Chicken (tinned)	3	14
Corned Beef (tinned)	55	—
Crisp Bread	3	—
Fish (tinned)	3	1
Fish Cakes	2	6
Fruit (tinned)	14	9
Grape Fruit Juice (tinned) ...	4	—
Ham (tinned)	77	12
Milk (tinned)	19	14
Pork Roll (tinned)	—	8
Raisins	60	—
Soup (tinned)	1	—
Steak (tinned)	1	—
Tongue (tinned)	14	4
Turkey (not dressed)	18	8
Vegetables (tinned)	22	14
	—	—
	481	14
	—	—

FOOD ADULTERATION

Chadderton has not yet become a Food and Drugs Authority. An attempt was made during the year to have the Ministry give the necessary authority and an inspection was made by one of the Ministry's officers, but the application met with no success.

I am therefore indebted to the County Medical Officer for the details given concerning samples taken in the area. These are given in the following table :—

Table XIX

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Samples submitted for Examination—1956

	No. of Samples taken
Baby Food	2
Barley	1
Beef Sausages	1
Bread	2
Cayenne Pepper	1
Cocoa	2
Condensed Milk	1
Continental Mustard	1
Cooking Fat	2
Cornflour	1
Demarara Sugar	1
Dripping	2
Flour	3
Fruit Curd	2
Garlic Salt	1
Glycerin of Thymol B.P.C.	1
Golden Raising Powder	1
Gravy Browning	1
Gripe Water	1
Ground Cinnamon	1
Herbal Cough Medicine	1
Ice Cream	1
Ice Lollies	2
Instant Pudding Mix	2
Lemons	1
Luncheon Meat, canned	2
Milk	97
Mixed Spice	1
Olive Oil	1
Pancake and Yorkshire Pudding Mix ...	1
Penicillin Tablets, B.P.	1
Pickles	3
Pork Sausages	1
Rye Biscuits	1
Salmon Paste	2
Salt	3
Semolina	2
Sponge Cake and Pudding Mix	4
Table Jelly	2
Tea	3
Tomatoes	1
Tomatoes, canned	2
Tomato Puree	1
Vegetables, canned	2
Vitaminised Sweets	1

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All the foregoing samples were submitted to the County Analyst for analysis and were reported to be genuine with the exception of the following :—

Sample No.	Type	Result of Analysis	Action Taken
E.6897	Glycerin of Thymol B.P.C.	The sample consisted of two bottles: (1) Weight per ml. at 20°C=1.026 gms. Glycerin 2.6% w/w. (2) Weight per ml. at 20°C=1.040 gms. Glycerin 11.0% w/w. Weight per ml. at 20°C should be 1.04-1.05 gms. with Glycerin 12.0% w/w.	The packers were communicated with.
E.7321	Pork Sausage	Contained 420 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor interviewed and cautioned.
E.7322	Beef Sausage	Contained 110 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor interviewed.
E.7326	Vitaminised sweets	Vitamin content should be declared per ounce and not per 10 dragees, also Vitamin B1 should be declared in mgms. and not in I.U.'s.	Packers communicated with.
E.7483	Dripping	Contained 2% free fatty acids, but should not contain more than 1.5%.	Vendor communicated with.
E.7487	Salmon Paste	Consisted of fish paste made with white fish.	Formal sample taken.
E.7523	Salmon Paste	(Formal sample following E.7487). Fish paste prepared from white fish, wheat rusk and edible fat, seasoned and artificially coloured.	Vendor was prosecuted. Fined £5 and £5/19/0 costs.

SHOPS

763 visits were paid under the provisions of the Shops Acts, and it was found necessary to caution one shopkeeper because of infringement of the regulations as to closing and the weekly halfday holiday. Action also had to be taken in another instance because of Sunday Trading, the person responsible being a member of the Jewish Faith. Satisfactory results were obtained without recourse to legal action but it is felt that it is most

difficult to enforce the provisions of the act concerning hours of closing where varying types of commodities are retailed. This applies particularly to the small general store where no assistants are employed. Little trouble is experienced where the shop retails certain specified types of articles such as those sold by hardware, millinery, and drapery stores, or where the shop is under a manager, but the type of smaller establishment which combines newspapers and a form of general store or the small grocery and confectionery shops are more difficult to control.

The provision of suitable facilities for shop assistants gave little trouble as there are not large shops in the area, and it has never been felt necessary to take temperature tests.

SECTION G

HOUSING

GENERAL

It was noticeable during the year that clearance of unfit houses has begun in earnest, and many condemned houses were finally demolished.

Five Clearance Orders were made during the year, and as 1957 began confirmation by the Ministry was awaited in each instance.

A severe storm in July damaged a house to such an extent that the tenant had to be evacuated. The house was one in an area scheduled for clearance, and suitable arrangements were made with the owner concerned resulting in the tenants being re-housed by the Council.

Following upon the service of notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, when repairs to two houses were required the owner appealed to the County Court against them. The appeals were based on two grounds, namely, that the time of 42 days as stated on the notices was too short for the completion of the work, and that the cost of the repairs required was out of proportion to the value of the house. The properties involved were built in 1938, and the owner was of the opinion the Council's proper course was to serve Closing Orders. The judge after hearing the evidence dismissed both appeals, stating that the time 42 days would have been extended by the Council if work had begun, and that the cost of the repairs was not out of proportion to the value of the property.

A further matter worthy of special mention relates to the Council's attempt to clear property in Chadderton Fold. Part of this property dates back to 1563 and is known as Bishop Lake's House. The three houses concerned were part of a Clearance Order but owing to the fact that they were listed under the provisions of Section 30 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, the Council had no option but to attempt to close them. This aroused some opposition, and some publicity was given to the matter, but as the year closed no decision had been reached as to their future use. The remainder of the area was left in a Clearance Scheme for which no confirmation had been received from the Ministry in 1956.

The favourable reception by the Housing Committee of undertakings by owners continues to short circuit clearance procedure and has helped considerably in some speedy removals.

It would appear that the cost of building, and the high rents that will have to be charged are likely to prove obstacles to clearance in the near future. They are obstacles which are not insurmountable, and it has been remarkable how tenants have quickly adapted themselves to these increased outgoings. It is to be hoped that the clearance of unfit houses will not be stopped because of the problem of costs and rents.

Details of the clearance and demolition and other matters relating to repairs to houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts, can be found by perusal of the statistics on the next few pages.

Table XX

HOUSING

(a) STATISTICS

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

	Houses	Flats
(i) By the local authority	121	—
(ii) By other local authorities	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	143	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 2877
- (b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 6022
- (2) Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit, as reported for the five and ten year clearance programmes :—
 - (a) Number found during the year 252
 - (b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year 250
- (3) Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit 287

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :—

- (1) Number of dwelling houses demolished during year :—
 - (a) Unfit houses 32
 - (b) Other houses —
- (2) Number persons displaced 51

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas :—

(1) Houses demolished or closed during year :—

	Number of	
	Houses	Persons Displaced
(a) Housing Act, 1936 :		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	21	35
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under (Section 11) and still in force	23	76
(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12) ...	Nil	Nil
(b) Housing Act, 1949 :		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2)	Nil	Nil
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2)	Nil	Nil

(2) Repairs during the year : No. of Houses

(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts	222
(b) Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice, houses in which defects were remedied :	
(i) By owners	80
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	57
(c) Housing Act, 1936—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16). Houses made fit :—	
(i) By owners	4
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	—

(d) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 :	
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5)	Nil

4. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :

(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7	Nil
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6)	Nil

Only 15 Certificates of Disrepair were applied for during the year and this is indicative that landlords are either afraid of the provisions of the 1954 Act or feel it is not worth while carrying out the necessary repairs and adaptations.

Table XXI

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

Return of Certificates of Disrepair issued by the Local Authority under Section 26 (1) of the above Act for the year 1956.

	No. of applications for certificates	No. granted	No. refused	No. of applications for revocation of certificates	No. granted	No. refused
(a) Dwelling-houses which have been the subject of a notice of repairs increase of rent under Part II of the 1954 Act.	15	13	2	2	2	—
(b) Dwelling-houses which have <i>not</i> been the subject of a notice of repairs increase of rent under the 1954 Act, but in respect of which permitted increases of rent are recoverable under Section 2 (1) (c) and (d) of the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Including applications for revocation of sanitary certificates issued under the pre-1954 Act procedure, but still in force at 30th August, 1954.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During 1956, 61 applications for grants towards the improvement of houses were received and out of these 56 were approved. The number of improvements completed was 53.

The fact that of the 61 applications only two concerned rented houses is significant that owners are not concerned much with this work. However, it is assisting owner-occupiers to modernise their homes in an economic way.

Table XXII

Housing Act, 1949—Improvement grants, etc.	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
Action during year :				
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	61	61	—	—
(b) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	NIL	—	NIL	—
(c) Finally approved by local authority	56	56	NIL	—
(d) Work completed	53	53	NIL	—
(e) Additional separate dwellings included in (d) above	NIL	—	NIL	—
(f) Any other action taken under the Act (give brief particulars)		NONE		NONE

OVERCROWDING

Until a survey of the whole district is taken then it is impossible to give correct figures concerning this matter of Housing Administration. I am of the opinion there is very little legal overcrowding in Chadderton, but there are a number of cases of overcrowding on bedroom accommodation.

TIMES PRINTING CO., OLDHAM.

